

Pre Amended  
7/A

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

RAVEN *et al.*Appl. No. (U.S. National Phase of  
PCT/GB00/00315; U.S.  
Appl. No. (to be assigned))

Int'l Filing Date: February 3, 2000

For: Assay With Reduced Background

Confirmation No.:

Art Unit: (To be assigned)

Examiner: (To be assigned)

Atty. Docket: 1581.0810000/RWE

**Preliminary Amendment**Commissioner for Patents  
Box PCT  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified patent application, Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments. This Amendment is provided in the following format:

- (A) A clean version of each replacement paragraph/section/claim along with clear instructions for entry;
- (B) Starting on a separate page, appropriate remarks and arguments. 37 C.F.R. § 1.121 and MPEP 714; and
- (C) Starting on a separate page, a marked-up version entitled: "Version with markings to show changes made."

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R.

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